Staff shortage in Vividh Bharti Jammn Service,

840. SHRI GAYA SINGH:
SHRI J. CHTIHARANIAN:

Wifl the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleated lo state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item appearing in the Indian Express dated May 20,2000 under the caption Vividh Bharati Jaaunu Service out of tone due to acute staff shortage;

(b).if so, the details thereof and Government's* reaction thereto; and

(c) whether any steps are being taken to increase the staff strength *M.* this station; if so, the details thereof?

THEMINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI ARUN JA1TLEY*):* (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Prasar Bharati have reported that one Announcer has been transferred alongwith post from-AIR, Kathua to. recently commissioned, Commercial Broadcasting Service, Radio Kashmir Jammu to manage the service. Station Director, AIR, Jammu has also been instructed *to* to make working arrangement to run CBS, Radio Kashmir Jummu till regular arrangements are made.

Privatisation of AIR

† 841. FROF.RAMGOPALYADAV:
SHRI RAMA SHANKER KAUSHIK:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased" to state:

(a) whether Government propose to privatize All India Radio;

(b) if-so, the reasons behind privatizing such a sensitive agency like All India Radio; and

(c) if not, the reaction and decision of Government with regard to die newsitem publish^ in the Hindustan, dated 2nd June, 2000 with regard to radio transmission?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THEMINISTRYOF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIARUNIAITLEY): **(a)No,** Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

† Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.